



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
**ARIZONA FIELD OFFICE**  
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Cooperating with the Arizona Department of Agriculture



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## PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS – MARCH 1, 2015

### ARIZONA HIGHLIGHTS

As of March 1, Arizona growers intend to plant 65,000 acres of **corn** for all purposes in 2015, down 10,000 acres and 13 percent below last year's plantings, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. **Sorghum** intentions total 25,000 acres, unchanged from plantings last year. Planting intentions for **barley** in 2015 are down 13,000 acres from last year's actual plantings to 23,000 acres. **All wheat** acreage is expected to total 134,000 acres for 2015. **Winter wheat** seedlings last fall for harvest in 2015 are estimated at 9,000 acres, up 1,000 acres from the 2014 crop. Growers intend to seed 125,000 acres of **durum wheat** this year, up 52,000 acres from last year. **Hay** producers in the State intend to harvest 300,000 acres this year. This is unchanged from the acreage cut for hay in 2014.

Producers intend to plant 115,000 acres of **all cotton** in 2015, a decrease of 30 percent from last year. Of that, 95,000 acres are **upland** cotton, and 20,000 acres are **American Pima** cotton. **Dry edible bean** acreage is expected to total 9,000 acres, down 18 percent from the 11,000 acres planted in 2014. **Spring potato** acreage is expected to total 3,300 acres, down 500 acres, or 13 percent from last year.

### UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

**Corn** planted area for all purposes in 2015 is estimated at 89.2 million acres, down 2 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the third consecutive year of an acreage decline and would be the lowest planted acreage in the United States since 2010.

**Sorghum** growers intend to plant 7.90 million acres of sorghum for all purposes in 2015, up 11 percent from last year. Kansas and Texas, the leading sorghum producing States, account for 75 percent of the expected United States acreage. As of March 22, Texas growers had only planted 7 percent of their crop, 7 percentage points behind last year and 21 points behind the 5-year average.

**Barley** producers intend to seed 3.26 million acres of barley for the 2015 crop year, up 10 percent from the previous year. If realized, this will be the fourth smallest seeded area on record. Record low acreage is expected in California, New York, and Utah.

**All wheat** planted area for 2015 is estimated at 55.4 million acres, down 3 percent from 2014. The 2015 winter wheat planted area, at 40.8 million acres, is down 4 percent from last year but up less than 1 percent from the previous estimate. Of this total, about 29.6 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 7.75 million acres are Soft Red Winter, and 3.43 million acres are White Winter. The intended Durum planted area for 2015 is estimated at 1.65 million acres, up 18 percent from the previous year.

Producers intend to harvest 57.1 million acres of **all dry hay** in 2015, virtually unchanged from 2014. Hay acreage is expected to increase in the Mid-Atlantic and Central Plains. However, this is offset by expected decreases across the Southern and Pacific States, as well as in the Upper Midwest. Record high acreage is expected in Louisiana. Record low acreage is expected in California, Illinois, Minnesota, and Ohio.

**All cotton** planted area for 2015 is estimated at 9.55 million acres, 13 percent below last year. Upland area is estimated at 9.40 million acres, down 13 percent from 2014. American Pima area is estimated at 150,000 acres, down 22 percent from 2014.

Area planted to **dry beans** in 2015 is expected to be 1.74 million acres, up 1 percent from the previous season.

Area planted of **spring potatoes** is expected to be 73,000 acres for the 2015 season, down 1 percent from 2014. Spring potato planting was complete in California where February weather was favorable. Growers reported the crop was in good condition, despite the continued drought. In Florida, the crop was minimally affected by frost, as crop conditions have been favorable.

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